

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

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1. An armored force training center is located in Senkvice (Velke Senkvice and Male Senkvice - P49/T11) in the Bratislava district on the Bratislava - Trnava road, 6 km. northeast of Pezinok. The school is in a barracks in the Schweinsbach wood. The camp command is in a hunting lodge. The same building holds the commands of the units quartered at the camp. The buildings of the former Antal dairy are used as depots for the camp, and the replacement organizations are quartered at the same place. The camp is empty from the middle of October until the following May, only a caretaker unit being present.
2. The camp is under the command of the armored regiment stationed at Brno (sic).
3. The school and camp staff consists of 30 men attached to the Brno regiment. The members are active armored force officers and noncommissioned officers. In addition, there are 42 to 44 instructors.
4. There is an advanced course, holding 320 to 330 men, who come from other branches as "volunteers" for armor. Among them there are many who were never asked whether they wished to be transferred. The completion of basic training is generally a requirement.
5. The course for recruits holds 180 men. In this unit there are trained men who were drafted in October 1952 and assigned to the Brno and Bratislava armored regiments (sic). The men have no idea how long their armor training course will last.
6. There is a refresher course for reservists, holding 220 to 230 men. These men have already served in the armored force in the old Czech Army and are learning the weapons and methods of the new Czech and Soviet Armies.
7. The replacement formation numbers 85 to 90 men.

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8. There is a training formation of 270 to 280 men, independent of the others.
9. The 1 Armored Battalion consists of the following units: a battalion staff of 52 men, with one T-34 old type tank; the 1 Armored Training Company of 76 men with seven T-34/85 tanks; the 2 Armored Training Company of 65 to 68 men, with six T-34 tanks, commanded by First Lt. Joanovic; and the 3 Armored Training Company of 65 to 68 men, with six T-34/85 tanks.
10. In addition there are five old Czech tanks, 20 Russian machine pistols per company, five light machine guns per company and two bazookas per company.
11. The auto park of the battalion consists of six different motorcycles, five Czech personnel carriers and 18 three-ton trucks.
12. Technical training follows basic general training for the recruits. During technical training the companies are divided into three groups, half the students being trained as tank drivers, 40 percent as tank gunners and the remainder as tank mechanics.
13. Morale is not good. The students take little interest in the political training, and the Communist leadership is regarded with distrust.
14. The school has a large exercise area and obstacle course. The course is 1,600 m. long and 25-40 m. broad, in ellipsoid form.

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